

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on June 9, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Callen, Cardella, Draper, Kimmel-Dagostino, Kraemer, and
Chairman Craft

Absent: Commissioner Thomas

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Kraemer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL

Commissioner Draper provided the following inspiration:

A copy of the Pyramid of Success by John Wooden with the heading,
*"Success, Peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to
become the best that you are capable of becoming..."*

Commissioner Cardella provided the following inspiration:

"Life is like an onion; you peel off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep."
Carl Sandberg

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspiration:

*"Nobody is so poor that he/she has nothing to give, and nobody is so rich that he/she has
nothing to receive ...those who give and those who receive. Real human dignity is found in giving
as well as receiving."*
Pope John-Paul II

ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Draper moved, Commissioner Cardella seconded, to accept and
file the affidavit of agenda posting for its meeting of June 9, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.
(Absent Commissioner Thomas)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Cardella moved, Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino seconded, to
approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of May 12, 2009. The motion carried
unanimously. (Absent Commissioner Thomas)

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Ellen Seaman, Recording Secretary

Phillip Ross, Senior Librarian, City of Torrance

Former Commissioner Irene Griffith

A. City Council

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino reported on matters considered at recent City Council meetings:

May 12, 2009

- Proclamation of June as Older Americans Month
- Recognition of Jackie La Bouff, Dale Sato, Merla Wilson as Older Americans Award Recipients

May 19, 2009

- Approval to purchase cargo trailer for Disaster Service Volunteer programs – cost of \$7,100. Held on Fire House 2 property.
- Adopted resolution finding fiscal hardship if additional property taxes are seized. Sacramento could also seize transit funds. Could take 8% of property taxes for 3 years – loss of \$4 million dollars.
- Goats will be used for weed abatement at the Walteria Reservoir site and adjacent property for 2-3 months at cost of \$16,000. Supervised by Basque shepherd from Spain.

June 2, 2009

- Torrance Centennial Committee approved – funded for \$25,000 annually for 4 years. Applications due August 4 (Available on line or at City Clerk's office). Members appointed on August 25. Need 29 people. City Council will appoint 1 senior and 1 youth ad hoc representative. Will meet 4th Monday of every month. First meeting Monday, September 28, 2009 at 6pm in the Katy Geissert Library.
- Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network received \$6.3 million in Federal Stimulus Funds for services to businesses, dislocated workers, unemployed, and young adults. Members are Torrance, Lomita, Signal Hill, and Long Beach. Torrance Career Center will open this summer on Engracia Street.
- Budget hearings postponed to June 9, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. for fiscal years 2009 – 2011, after Strategic Planning sessions.

June 9, 2009: On agenda

- Ordinance to extend moratorium on massage parlors to September 1, 2009. Could extend moratorium for up to an additional year.

B. Housing

No report.

C. Health

Former Commissioner Griffith stated that she was receiving a great deal of mail in protest of the Governor's proposal to discontinue many senior programs (such as job placement, Medi-Cal, in-home support services) as well as other community based service programs. It is suggested that people write to the Senate and Assembly Budget Conference Committee and ask for a 20% reduction, instead of a total discontinuation.

Thirty three area agencies on aging are losing their Federal mandates and the result could be malnutrition and loss of dignity and self determination for those once served.

The caregiver resource centers which provide support for in-home care givers for Alzheimer's patients face closure as well.

D. Transportation

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino is currently serving on a committee reviewing the bus schedules for the City of Torrance as part of the City's Strategic Plan priorities. Once the plan is developed, it will be presented to the City Council in August. Eventually, the buses will be re-branded and the signage will be changed and maps and schedules will be placed at the stops and on the bus. Flash boards with both audio and visual capabilities, will be placed on busses to announce stops and advertise community events. Part of the master plan is a new regional bus center at Crenshaw and Maricopa, to replace the center that was at the Del Amo Mall. The center would also incorporate a park and ride lot, an administration center and a training center for the Torrance Fire department. The regional transit center plan may take as long as three to five years to complete.

There are plans to have more mini buses as well as nine hybrid buses. The City will be seeking input from both the Commission on Aging and Focal Point on routes and destinations that seniors would like to see continue or be added. The plan is to continue to keep the fee for seniors at 25 cents. The cost to transport one person on the bus is \$4.00, the costs not covered by fees is subsidized.

There was discussion of traffic light synchronization and cameras for traffic detection. The new busses may be equipped with traffic signal interrupters to aid the route during busy traffic times.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that currently there are several transportation programs for seniors: Ambassador Program, Bus Buddies, the Senior Ride Program and taxi service.

E. Cable

Commissioner Callen announced that Torrance CitiCABLE covered the Armed Forces Day Parade. The parade had a record attendance of over 60,000 people. There were 78 floats/ bands in the parade. Channel 3 is presenting encore presentations of the past parades.

There was a discussion about covering more senior activities on cable shows.

F. Focal Point Program

Commissioner Cardella reported the following Focal Point statistics for the month of: May 2009

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| • Total number of documented calls
42 | • Total number of callbacks
15 |
| • Miscellaneous calls
<u>69</u> | • Total number of walk-ins
39 |
| • Total number of calls received
111 | |
- Of the documented calls
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • 55.0% were in regard to Housing | • 12.0% were for transportation |
| • 21.4% were for In-Home Services | |

- Focal Point gave a presentation to a church group and participated in a health fair and the Successful Aging Expo. At the Expo, there were over 2000 participants and Focal Point was able to assist 17 participants.

There was a discussion of the need for affordable housing in Torrance.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

There was a discussion of internet scams and credit card fraud.

ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the Baby Boomer Health and Fitness Fair on Saturday, May 30 was a success. The Older Americans Award ceremony was also successful and the recipients were very pleased to be honored. Senior Recreation Supervisor and Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino accompanied Merla Wilson as she was honored by the LA County Older Americans Recognition program.

Torrance Travelers Tour Registration is on June 26, 2009 at the Ken Miller Recreation Center for upcoming summer trips to The Disney Concert Hall, Luau in Laughlin and the Shake, Rattle and Roll Dinner trip on the Fillmore train. There is a trip on June 14 to the Glendale Centre Theatre.

Commissioner Craft read a thank you note from Merla Wilson for her award by the LA County Older Americans program.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino announced that Torrance's Animal Control Facility will be hosting a vaccination clinic on June 17, 2009, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Torrance Police Department Animal Control Office, 2200 Jefferson Street.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino announced the Torrance Police Department would be conducting a DUI - Driver's License checkpoint on June 19, 2009 from 8:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. on the corner of Palos Verdes Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard.

The Torrance Symphony Fundraiser is June 13, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. and The Esquires, a big Band group, will play.

Commissioner Callen asked to see if it was possible for dog license fees to be waived for seniors. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand said she would investigate and gather information on the question.

Senior Librarian Ross, for the City of Torrance thanked Mrs. Wand for coordinating the successful Baby Boomer Health and Fitness fair where Principal Librarian Theyer handed out more than 450 LINK bags. There was also a LINK Health and Travel Fair on May 2, 2009 at the Katy Geissert Library.

Senior Librarian Ross represented the Library at a table at the Senior Fair on May 9 and stated that the LINK program is developing other components: a blog, face book page and podcasting that there is a LINK site on the Library home page website, listed under Baby Boomers. He handed out flyers for programs at the Katy Geissert Library: June 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.; *Culinary History of the South Bay, Part 1* and on June 20, 2009, 10:00 a.m.; *Understanding and Living With Developmental Disabilities*.

Commissioner Craft announced that the digital switchover for television will be June 12, 2009.

Commissioner Callen reminded the Commissioners that the Elephant Bar has a 20% senior discount card.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino presented a plaque to outgoing Chairperson Craft with thanks for his service on behalf of the Commission on Aging.

Chairperson Craft thanked all the Commissioners for all their support and thoughtfulness.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m. to the next regular meeting of Tuesday, July 14, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

Approved as Submitted July 14, 2009 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
--